

Remarks

Claims 28-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1-27 and 41-45 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter to this application within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

In view of the remarks set forth herein, further and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 28-40 are allowed.

II. At page 2 of the Official Action, claims 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants submit that claims 43 and 44 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly this rejection is moot.

III. At page 2 of the Official Action, claims 41-43 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mercer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,315,740).

Applicants submit that claims 41-43 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly this rejection is moot.

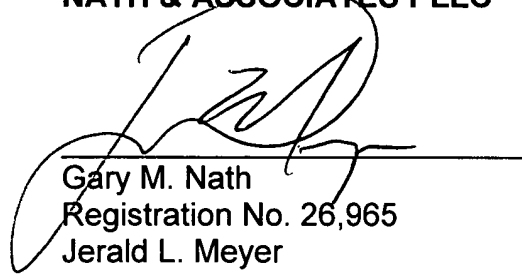
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,

NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "GMN", is written over a horizontal line.

Gary M. Nath
Registration No. 26,965
Jerald L. Meyer
Registration No. 41,194
Ari G. Zytcer
Registration No. 57,474
Customer No. 20529

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NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 548-6284